Mainstreaming Gender into Climate Change: Ghana’s Experience
Background

- It is a well known fact that climate change affects men and women differently.
- In Ghana, women produce 70% of the nations subsistence crops, account for 52% of the labour force, and contribute 49% of the GDP.
- They are engaged in household water supplies, energy for cooking and are highly dependent on the local natural resources for their livelihoods and therefore are disproportionately affected by the effects of climate change.
Policies

• The Government of Ghana is committed to pursue some coordinated actions to reduce the impacts of climate change on its citizenry as well as building gender responsiveness into its development structures.
• The NDPC coordinates the preparation of the National Medium Term Development Plan and issues of climate change and gender equality are captured in it.
Policies

• The National Climate Change Policy, the National Gender Policy and the Gender and Agricultural Development Strategy all have sections that focus on Gender Equality and Climate Change.

• The NDPC prepares planning guidelines for MMDAs to develop their MDTEPs. The MMDAs are required to incorporate climate change and gender issues in the guidelines in their medium term plans.
Policies

• In addition, The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection has developed a curricula for mainstreaming Gender into Planning, budget, and M&E with a module gender equality and climate change
Policies

- Gender analysis frameworks and planning template has also been developed to aid gender mainstreaming and over 500 staff of the decentralised and centralised government departments have been trained using the above documents.

These documents exist to aid the process of mainstreaming gender into climate change and other sectors.
Challenges

- In spite of all these policies a lot has to be done to mainstream gender into climate change
  - Lack of institutional coordination with respect to gender mainstreaming and climate change
  - Inadequate sex disaggregated data to aid planning and the development of gender sensitive indicators
Challenges

- Inadequate capacity of institutions to mainstream gender (Financial and Technical) eg. Gender Desk Officers at the decentralised level

Ghana’s Gender Responsive NDC support seeks to address these challenges to mainstream gender into the implementation of climate change policies.
Challenges

- Inadequate capacity and knowledge preventing women from participating in decision making at all levels.
The way forward

- Establish a technical advisory body to oversee implementation of gender sensitive climate change policies

- Build capacity of the Gender Desk officers at the decentralized level.

- MOGCSP and CSOs in Gender to provide technical backstopping
The way forward

- Production of sex disaggregated data to aid the development of gender sensitive indicators
- Stronger coordination between the MoGCSP and MESTI/EPA
- Adequate budget should also be made for mainstreaming gender into climate change
The way forward

- Involving all relevant stakeholders in the planning and implementation of activities as gender is a cross cutting issue.
Thank you